Amendments to the Claims:

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

10. (new) A storage system adapted to be coupled to a host, the storage system comprising:

a plurality of storage devices, some of the storage devices having different performance characteristics than others of the storage devices;

a controller coupled to the plurality of storage devices for selecting at least one storage device from the plurality of storage devices based on predetermined conditions for placing data blocks therein;

an evaluator for when a data storage request is made, evaluating whether the request matches the predetermined conditions and providing a result of that evaluation; and

wherein when the result of the evaluation matches the predetermined conditions, a process is executed for placing the data blocks in the selected storage device according to the predetermined conditions.

11. (new) A system as in claim 10 wherein the storage devices comprise physical storage devices.

12. (new) The storage system of claim 10 wherein a management device is coupled to the storage system for relocating data blocks in the storage devices based on the predetermined conditions.

13. (new) The storage system of claim 10 further comprising:

a storage to store management information for converting logical addresses accessed by the host into information for specifying the plurality of storage devices, physical addresses for the selected storage device, and preset conditions, and

wherein when an access request to each data block is made from the host by the logical address, the preset conditions are applied to the access request, and when the result of the evaluation matches the conditions, the management information about the logical addresses and physical addresses for the storage devices is used to thereby place data blocks in the selected storage device.

14. (new) The storage system of claim 10 wherein:

when an access request to a data block is made from the host using the logical address, the preset conditions are applied to the access request to thereby evaluate the application thereof; and

when the total number of data blocks placed in a storage device selected from the result of evaluation exceeds a specified portion of capacity of that storage device, at least one of the following two events occurs (1) the data blocks are stored in another storage device or (2) the data blocks already assigned to the storage device selected are shifted to another storage device so the data blocks are stored in a free location.

15. (new) The storage system as claimed in claim 10 wherein:

when an access request to a data block is made from the host using the logical address, the preset conditions are applied to the access request to thereby evaluate the application thereof, and

when the total number of data blocks placed in a storage device selected from the result of the evaluation exceeds a preset threshold of the storage device, the storage system performs at least one of the following two events: (1) provides information about exceeding capacity of the storage device, and (2) provides information about the conditions that caused the selection of the storage device.

16. (new) The storage system of claim 15 wherein the preset threshold is full capacity

17. (new) The storage system as in claim 10 further including a system for setting the predetermined conditions.

18. (new) The storage system of claim 10 wherein the predetermined conditions include at least one of: information for an access executor for a file; information

for a file owner; the file size; the file copying time; the last file update time; the last file access time; information for an application capable of executing the file; and an access rate for the file.

19. (new) The storage system of claim 10 wherein the process executed for placing the data blocks places data blocks in accordance with predetermined conditions, and the predetermined conditions define information for a data block to be placed in the file and information for a storage device that should place the data block.

20. (new) The storage system of 10 wherein the information for a data block to be placed in the file includes at least one of: the number of bytes counted from a leading end of the file, a percentage from the leading end of the file, the number of bytes counted from a tail end of the file, a percentage from the tail end of the file, and whether it is an added part for the file.

21. (new) The storage system of claim 10 wherein:

the evaluator evaluates whether or not the file requested for storage by the host matches a file having a high access frequency or a file requiring a wide storage area; and

when the file requested for storage by the host device matches to a file having a high access frequency or a file requiring a wide storage area, the processing module stores a predetermined data block among a plurality of data blocks included in the file in a storage device having a fast access speed of the plurality of storage devices.

22. (new) A storage system adapted to be coupled to a host and a management device, the system comprising:

a plurality of physical storage devices, some of the storage devices having different performance characteristics than others of the storage devices;

a controller coupled to the storage devices for controlling access thereto;

at least one interface for returning a result of access to the storage devices according to an access request from a host device;

a selector for selecting a specific physical storage device from the plurality of storage devices based on a policy preset to the storage system from the management device;

the storage system including an evaluation device for, when access for a data storage request is issued from the host, evaluating whether the request matches the preset policy; and

a comparator which, when the result of the evaluation by the evaluation device matches conditions of the policy, executes a process for placing the data blocks in the storage device selected by the policy.

23. (new) A storage system comprising:

a plurality of physical storage devices, some of the storage devices having different performance characteristics than others of the storage devices;

an access controller which controls access to the plurality of storage devices;

an interface between a host device and the storage devices;

policy setting apparatus to enable setting at least one policy for the storage system, the policy being a policy set so as to select one of the plurality of storage physical devices for each data structure in one file according to at least one of the data structure of the file or attributes attached to the data structure, where the data structure exists in the file upon storing the one file in the storage system as viewed from the host device; and

when access for a file storage request is made from the host device, applying the at least one policy to the file subjected to the storage request and evaluation of the result of such application;

wherein data blocks are placed in a corresponding storage device for each data structure, based on the result of evaluation.